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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/037,375	01/04/2002	Keita Takahashi	01853/LH	6798

7590 06/17/2004
FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN,
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New York, NY 10017-2023

EXAMINER

BLACKMAN, ROCHELLE ANN J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2851

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/037,375

Applicant(s)

TAKAHASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Rochelle Blackman

Art Unit

2851

✓

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 and 23-29 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01/04/02 & 08/29/03 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/12/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on March 12, 2004 was considered by the examiner or record. The original copy was previously written on before the examiner of record received it, therefore the initials and signature of the examiner of record and date considered by the examiner of record appears to the right of the blacked-out manuscript. Another copy of the information disclosure statement (IDS) has been provided herewith.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-29 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asano, U.S. Patent No. 4,505,568.

Asano discloses an "electromagnetic drive for controlling an amount of light of a luminous flux"(see FIG. 6); said electromagnetic drive comprising: a "plurality of solenoids having coils whose winding axes lie perpendicular to a direction of the luminous flu"(see 10 and 11 of FIG. 6); a "movable plunger that is movable along one of the winding axes by a magnetic force of the solenoid"(see 10a and 11a of FIGS. 1, 2, and 5); and a "blade member driven by the movable plunger for controlling the amount of light of the luminous flux"(see 2 of FIG. 6); a "bearing portion for supporting the movable plunger at an end portion thereof exposed out of the solenoid"(see 6 and 7 of FIG. 6); "wherein the plurality of solenoids are disposed along the direction of the luminous flux in such a manner that the winding axes of the coils are respectively lying on planes perpendicular to the direction of the luminous flux, in parallel with each other"(see position of "solenoids" 10 and 11 in FIG. 6); "wherein the movable plunger includes a band of projection formed on a peripheral surface in a vicinity of the end portion of the movable plunger to be fitted into the bearing portion, and wherein the movable plunger is movable in the bearing portion using the band of projection"(also see 6 and 7 of FIG. 6).

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-15 and 23-29 have already been indicated as allowed in the previous Office action.
2. Claims 16-21 are allowed.

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3. Claims 16-21 have been found to be allowable because the prior art of record either alone or in combination neither discloses nor makes obvious the combination of the electromagnetic drive comprising: "at least two coils magnetically connected in series" with the other particular combination of features recited in claim 16.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rochelle Blackman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2113. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Lefkowitz can be reached on (571) 272-2180. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Rodney Fuller
Primary Examiner

RB

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Fuller', is written over the printed name of the Primary Examiner.